

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

1881.

Prospectus.

The National Republican begins the new year under new management and with new material.

It will be a standard Republican journal, and will at all times give complete information of the official doings in all Departments of the Government.

It will give all interesting information that can be legitimately obtained concerning the intentions and policies of the ruling power.

In District affairs it will keep up the interests of the people upon whom it relies, and will at all times cooperate with progressive citizens, without regard to political predilections, who have means to propose and advance for the improvement of the National Capital.

It will furnish a daily record of all the interesting social events of the city, making its society department a special feature.

It will give telegraphic news from all parts of the world reached by the wires, and in its editorial and foreign, domestic, and city news will keep pace with the times.

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

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Washington, D. C.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., AUGUST 15, 1881.

Population of the National Capital...180,000.

Persons leaving the city for the summer can have THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN mailed to them by leaving their address at the business office.

The San Francisco mint has been a political machine for years. Because the New Orleans mint is not the "outs" are trying to get the superintendent removed.

Henceforth persons who were stopping at the resorts down the Potomac received their letters every day per steamer. Now they are compelled to wait four days for their mail. This is conducting the Post-Office Department on business principles.

"We are ninety miles from Washington and steamers run down in six hours every day, and yet it takes us four days to get a letter from the city." This is the testimony of our people at the resorts down the Potomac this summer. It is one of the straws which show how the wind is blowing at the Post-Office Department for economy and reform. Bah!

The Virginia Canvass.

Although prophecies are hardly in order yet, when Colonel Cameron and Major Daniel, the candidates for Governor, have had but one meeting, their second meeting occurring at Harrisonburg to-day, it is not too early to gauge the obvious setting of the popular current steadily in favor of the Liberal movement. Major Daniel's nomination was a good one, in the sense that it did not leave to the Readjusters a monopoly of the advantage of youth and dash which was abundantly supplied by the splendid nomination of Colonel Cameron. Yet it is already obvious that the enthusiasm over Daniel was much like that gentleman's sophomoric eloquence—vapid, showy, transient, and unsubstantial. It has already exhausted itself, and it is doubtful whether a second supply can be easily manufactured.

A great tactical advantage was secured by the Liberals in beginning their canvass as soon after their nominations had been made as was practical. In this was seen the admirable judgment as a political manager of Senator Mahone. For thirty days, almost unopposed, Colonel Cameron has traveled through the populous white counties in that portion of Virginia known as Little Tennessee, famous for its lively Democratic majorities in old time political struggles. Not only has he held the ground almost undisputed, but he has discounted the Bourbon campaign in advance by warning the people of the dishonest treatment of the great practical questions that now ought to occupy the Virginia mind to the utter exclusion of the sickly and nauseous sentimentalism upon which its Bourbon leaders seek to feed it. Cameron has wisely told the people that instead of addressing the public mind in a vain to enlighten it upon the great vital questions of the public debt and how best to get rid of it honorably and easily, the Bourbons will again beg the people not to consider that matter now, but once more to rally to save "society and civilization" from the poor, timid, helpless, shrinking negroes, who are in a minority of sixty odd thousand votes in the State and also in a minority in seventy of the ninety-nine counties. That will surely be the style of oratory that the Bourbon speakers, notably so of Major Daniel. The truth is that he cannot speak in any other fashion. His speech in Washington last summer was a specimen of his oratory at its best or worst, as the taste of the hearer may prefer. He has no acquaintance with questions of practical politics, and has no stock in trade but that tropical and pyrotechnic oratory to which the South has long listened with so little of profit or real information for herself.

Such oratory as Major Daniel's cannot fail to suffer by the sharp contrast with the clear and cogent logic with which Colonel Cameron treats the question involved in the Virginia contest. Day by day the "flapdoodle" appeals of Major Daniel and Captain McKinney (for he, too, is represented to be a tropical orator) will grow more and more tedious to the people, just as gingerbread finally palls upon a child's taste, and they will be found easily persuaded by the logic and facts of men like Mahone, Cameron, and Riddleberger, who seek to interest them in questions of practical concern and to emancipate them from their long and unnatural vassalage to tawdry eloquence worthy only of a college debating society.

It is difficult now to imagine any reverse likely to happen to check the Liberal movement in Virginia. The struggle will last for nearly three months longer, and there is now every augury of a continued and healthy growth of Liberal sentiment. All the Liberal leaders are sanguine of success. Their canvass is full of snap and dash, while the Bourbons latter along in a canvass limp and tame with the manner of men conscious of impending and foredoomed disaster.

Can He Be Moved?

One of the correspondents says the President's doctors desire to remove him out of the danger of malaria that lurks in the Executive Mansion. There are several able physicians who desire that malaria should be removed from the President, and that the sooner he is removed the better it will be. No one knows better than Dr. Blane that he can be removed, inasmuch as many wounds were sent from the battle-fields of Virginia to the hospitals in the North.

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The President's Case.

While the condition of the President is certainly of great uncertainty, the attending surgeons have all along expressed the hope, and some of them the firm conviction, that he would recover. These gentlemen are continually with the distinguished patient; they have an opportunity of noting gradual and minute signs of encouragement of which we of the outside world cannot be cognizant. The professional skill of these gentlemen cannot be questioned, and when that is conceded it must then be admitted that they are competent to form an opinion as to the progress of the case under their charge. Continuing the reasoning, it should be believed that when these attending surgeons say that their patient is better they have what they believe to be just ground for saying so, and that they mean what they say. To reach any other conclusion would be an imputation upon their ability or their veracity. The only criticism that THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN has made upon the surgeons or their statements was in the editorial mention of the discrepancy between the assertion of one of them on Sunday night and the fact of the operation on Monday. There was no unkind feeling in that criticism, and should similar utterances be again made and similar facts follow probably a like reference would be made to them. But we do not believe that it is the duty of any newspaper to endeavor to collect or parade testimony and then jump at the conclusion that the President has not been properly treated, and is therefore going to die. Certain journals have set up little medical bureaus of their own, and have allowed disappointed members of the profession to air their grievances, their knowledge and their ignorance, their beliefs and their hopes, until the average man who reads their columns and none other must surely believe that there is no hope for the President. There is hope, because the surgeons who have charge of the case, and who are therefore most intimately acquainted with all the symptoms, say so, and their word should certainly outweigh the deductions of the professionals or laity who have no connection with the case and who are compelled to simply take the bulletins of the doctors as the inference from them. There is but one wish in regard to the President, viz., that he shall recover. That may be the case in the end, and sincere prayer of every citizen in every section of the country. And while this wish and this prayer is so universal, let us hope in the accomplishment of the wish and the fulfillment of the prayer until the surgeons themselves shall say that there is no hope, as it would be their duty to do if such was the fact.

Right under the nose of the Post-Office Department, as well as from the Western country, come evidences of its mean and narrow-minded policy. People of Washington who are down the river at various points are receiving "aged papers and state letters" for the first time in many years. Little Mr. James has discontinued the steamboat service.

PERSONALITIES.

The Rev. D. W. Bartine, D. D., a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died in Trenton, N. J., Friday.

GENERAL ROBERT PATTERSON has left his family an estate valued at \$1,500,000. He made no public or charitable bequests.

EX-GOVERNOR N. S. BERRY, of New Hampshire, died at his home in New York City, Friday.

MR. FRED GODFREY, the famous bandmaster of the Cold Stream Guards, has become lame, and has been placed in an asylum.

COLONEL R. M. WALLACE, of South Carolina, the general and accomplished ex-United States marshal of that State, is spending several months in Europe.

MAJOR SETH PIERCE, of Cornwall, Conn., the sole remaining representative of the class of 1806 at Yale, has just died. He was nearly one hundred years old.

OSCAR WILDE, the new English poet, speaks of "wisdom kisses." The trouble with Oscar is that his poems are made up of unthink thoughts.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY's grave at Frederick, Md., is shabby and neglected, but hundreds of the graves of Confederate dead near that of the author of our most popular national song are well cared for.

THE PEOPLE will think all the more of President Arthur, and the use of returning strength was to write to his mother. That letter will be worth a good deal more than its weight in gold to the future autograph hunter.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRUMBULL proposes winter back, after the Swiss style, at Rockaway and Coney Island, and then to go to the South to see business himself, if he likes. For our own part, we prefer our winter quarters on the American plan.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS is sending around to the newspaper editors kindly offering to furnish them with a copy of his new book, "The People's Choice." He pleads for the genuine article, but that doesn't prevent his getting whole platoons of Currier men into the New York custom-house in place of Coalingham, says Boston Post.

THIS late Governor Bagley, of Michigan, in his last will, bequeathed the great estate which he had accumulated. Although he left an estate valued at \$600,000, he directed that the family monument to be erected on his burial lot should cost no more than \$500. This is worthy to be noted in these times of pecuniary stringency.

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PERIL STATISTICS.

Loss of Life on the Steamship Steam.

It has been ascertained at the office of

Superintendent General of Steam Vessels

Dumont that during the fiscal year 1880-81 there

were 286 lives lost of passengers and crews upon

merchant steam vessels of the United States from

explosions, fires, collisions, and other accidents,

accidental drowning, and miscellaneous causes.

Among these lost by shipwreck are included the

victims of the disasters of the City of Vera Cruz

and the City of Alpena—129 persons. Rest of

the losses were due to collisions, and other

and fully supplied with the life-saving appliances

required by law. The gains in which they were

lost are said to have been the heaviest ever known

in the history of the country. The losses were

General Dumont expresses the opinion that no

human foresight could have prevented their

loss. 19 persons were saved from the City of

Vera Cruz, having been washed ashore on

pieces of wreckage, and upon the City of Alpena

all were lost. Compared with the previous year

there has been an increase in the number of lives

lost of 63 persons. This covers an increase of 138

by vessels, 21 by collisions, and 10 by other

causes. The loss of life by shipwreck was 20

in 1879, 21 in 1880, and 22 in 1881. The

loss of life by collisions was 10 in 1879, 11

in 1880, and 12 in 1881. The loss of life by

other causes was 9 in 1879, 10 in 1880, and

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A MAINE CENTENNIAL.

SCALPING THE EARLY SETTLERS.

Celebrating an Indian Massacre at Bethel One

Hundred Years Ago—A Lively Retelling of the

Citizens—Mock Fighting,

Speeches, and Songs.

Special Correspondence of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

BETHEL, ME., Aug. 12.—I GIVE you

an account of one of the most novel and

exciting celebrations of the history of the

country, to wit: The great centennial

celebration of the last Indian attack upon

the settlers of this town, one hundred years ago,

which occurred on the 12th of August, 178